

WHPC Meeting 7th Nov 2023

Item 23/348

Playpark – Annual RoSPA Playpark Inspection 2023

Purpose

1. To receive the 2023 RoSPA Playpark Inspection Report
2. To identify remedial actions, if required.

1. Background

West Hill Parish Council provides a children’s playpark for community use. The Council has a responsibility to maintain and inspect the playpark:

- under various acts of legislation including Health & Safety (1974)
- under the terms of its insurance cover

The playpark and equipment are regularly inspected to ensure they are secure and safe and any remedial work that may be required is carried out promptly: weekly (Cllrs), monthly (EDDC RoSPA qualified Inspector) and annually by RoSPA. In addition, WHPC carries out a detailed annual inspection.

The previous RoSPA report (2022) identified the Playboat as a Medium risk. This was not unexpected as Cllrs were aware that the Playboat was nearing the “end of it’s useful life” and were monitoring the ongoing and increasing areas of rotten timber. The Playboat was removed and disposed of in early 2023.

The annual inspection is included in those commissioned by EDDC. Once the report is received EDDC invoice the Parish Council for the £100 +vat fee. (This is included in the WHPC budget).

2. RoSPA Report 2023


The 2023 RoSPA inspection took place on 27th September 2023. The assessment of each item of equipment (from the waste bins to the Climbing frame) is recorded and a detailed report submitted to the Parish Council for review/action. In summary,





- No matters of serious concern were identified.
- All equipment given a risk rating of LOW/VERY LOW.

The findings are summarised in Appendix A and the full report is provided separately.

3. For consideration

Councillors are asked to note the findings of the RoSPA inspection and consider the proposed actions:

Asset	Finding Title	Risk Level	RoSPA recommendation
a. Swing	Strimmer damage 	Low	Prevent further damage. Proposed action: Remind Lengthsman Consider installing protective cover

Asset	Finding Title	Risk Level	RoSPA recommendation
b. Swing	Supports are damaged. Remove splintered timber 	Low	Monitor
c. Balance Trail	Overhead 	Low	The protective surface under all bars and rings must be kept in good condition. Proposed action: Monitor (Each year RoSPA gives general advice for this category of equipment)
d. Balance Trail	Cap missing 	Low	Replace cap Proposed action: Replace cap
e. Seating - Mixed	Timber rotting 	Low	Repair item Proposed action: Monitor areas of timber decay. Repair if considered economic. Replace benches? Note - WHPC has been monitoring the areas of decay. The benches are considered to be nearing the end of their useful life. Areas of decay have been removed in recent years.

Anne Oliver, Parish Clerk

24th Oct 2023

Equipment	RoSPA assessment Sep-23	Findings to note
1. Balance Trail	Low	Cap missing
2. Balance Trail surface	Low	Keep ground surface in good condition
3. Entrance gate	Low	
4. 5 bar gate	Low	
5. General Surface (grass)	Very Low	
6. Waste/re-cycling bins	Very Low	
7. Climbing frame/multitplay	Low	
8. Climbing frame/multitplay surface	Very Low	
9. Path Internal (bark chips)	Low	
10. Rotator/Pirouette	Low	
11. Rotator/Pirouette surface	Very Low	
12. Seating	Low	Areas of timber decay
13. Signage	Very Low	
14. Small slide	Low	
15. Small slide surface	Very Low	
16. Swing basket	Low	
17. Swing basket surface	Low	
18. Triple Swing	Low	Strimmer damage + splintered timber
19. Triple Swing surface	Low	
20.	Low	